



MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY

MAY 2015



To a degree

Thirty-six years after leaving Morehead State, Phil Simms – CBS Sports analyst, former Super Bowl M.V.P., two-time Pro Bowler – returns for something he left behind *By Amy Wimmer Schwarb*

Few can match the achievements that former New York Giants quarterback Phil Simms can check off from his football career. He owns a Super Bowl ring. He appeared in two Pro Bowls during his 14-year NFL career. He holds the record for highest percentage of completed passes in a championship game. And after he retired – and the Giants retired his jersey – Simms moved on to a successful second career in broadcasting.

But even after all those career highs, Simms was still missing one thing: a college degree.

This May, 36 years after leaving Morehead State University – located two hours east of Simms' hometown in Springfield, Kentucky – he returned to campus to receive his bachelor's degree. He was just two classes shy of his diploma, and Morehead State worked with him to complete his requirements.

"It's something I just wanted to get done," Simms said. "It's been hanging out there."

For Simms, who grew up in a family of eight children, Morehead State provided an opportunity no other university offered: an athletics scholarship that allowed him to attend college and play football. Simms says he was serious about pursuing a professional career from his early days at Morehead State, and if he had not pursued that path, he likely would have wanted to remain close to the game as a teacher and football coach.

"Going to college gave me the chance to lead a different life away from home," Simms said. "I'll never forget the fact that they gave me a football scholarship. I'll never get over that. That was the only way that I could go to college. It was the perfect school and the right situation."

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Office of the President

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MSU physics professor chosen as Fulbright Scholar

MSU's Dr. Wilson J. González-Espada, associate professor of physics and science education, has been selected as the recipient of a Fulbright grant.

Dr. González-Espada will travel to Uruguay to collaborate on two research projects with faculty members at Catholic University of Uruguay. They will study underclassmen's perspectives on the role of science in society and will work to find ways to encourage more students to study physics.

He will spend a semester in Latin America, and said he plans to present his research at meetings of the Kentucky Academy of Science and the Kentucky Association of Physics Teachers upon his return.

Dr. González-Espada joined MSU in 2008. He earned a bachelor's degree from University of Puerto Rico at Río Piedras, a master's degree from Inter-American University of Puerto Rico at San Germán and a Ph.D. from the University of Georgia.

AET students achieve 100 percent pass rate on CTM exam

MSU's Applied Engineering and Technology Spring 2015 graduating class achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the Certified Technology Manager (CTM) exam. The exam is nationally administered through the Association of Technology, Management and Applied Engineering (ATMAE) to certify graduates of ATMAE accredited programs. MSU's AET department has been accredited by ATMAE since 1998, with reaccreditation achieved through 2020.

A minimum score of 95 out of 160 in the categories of leadership, self-management, systems, processes, operations, people, project, quality, risk and safety is currently required to qualify for certification.

English master's degree program is among top 10 nationally

MSU's English master's degree program has been selected ninth best in the United States and is the only school in Kentucky whose program made the list of top universities and colleges released by OnlineMastersPrograms.org.

According to OnlineMastersPrograms.org, MSU was selected because it excelled in: dedication to online or hybrid education; graduate course selection; and providing academic and career services.

Morehead State is one of the few accredited schools in the nation to offer a master's degree in English completely online, and it is the first in the region to fully support a virtual learning environment.

School of Business Administration ranked in top 50

MSU's School of Business Administration has been ranked in the 2015 rankings of the Top 50 Best Value Online Business Schools by Value Colleges. MSU's School of Business Administration was ranked 41st in the country.

All AACSB-accredited business schools in the U.S. were considered and evaluated according to their complete cost, average debt for graduates, and average starting salary for graduates, to find the right balance for value-conscious students.

MSU's School of Business Administration has 40 full-time faculty members and enrolls more than 1,000 majors at the associate, bachelor's and master's degree levels. Morehead State established Kentucky's first fully-online degree program, the Master of Business Administration (MBA) in 1999.